

REMARKS**Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-27 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21 and 27 are amended herein to more clearly recite the features of the present invention. No new matter is introduced by the amendments to the claims. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Acknowledgement of Interview Summary

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the interview with their representative on November 24, 2003. Applicant acknowledges that during the aforementioned interview the Examiner withdrew the finality of the Office Action and forwarded a copy of the final page of the rejection indicating the rejection was non-final.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,067,624 to Kuno.

Independent claims 1, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21 and 27 have been amended to more clearly recite that the camera control system of the present invention, in which the camera connected to a camera server is controlled by a video camera control command transmitted from a client, is arranged to transmit a video camera control right acquisition request. The camera control right acquisition request includes information to issue permission for the video camera control right to be placed on the camera server in response to input of the video camera control command, which does not include information from a client's input unit. As shown in Figs. 8A-8C the packet of Fig. 8B, which is transmitted when a client that does not have a camera control right inputs a

camera control command (Fig. 8A), includes a header 301 with a camera client ID, for example, a control command 302 and information 303 for requesting acquisition of the camera control right, which is not included in the camera control packet of Fig. 8A.

The above-described feature of the present invention does not appear to be taught or suggested by Kuno. Kuno teaches three messages (Figs. 4A-4C; column 4, lines 31-35) that are transmitted from a client to a camera control server. Each of the three messages includes a header comprising a message ID and a client ID. When the client inputs a camera control command only the message of Fig. 4B comprises the header 114-115 and camera control parameters 116-118 (e.g., column 4, lines 58-65 and column 7, lines 17-18). Kuno therefore fails to teach transmitting a message when the client inputs the camera control command, which includes information for requesting acquisition of camera control right and is not included in the camera control message (Fig. 4B).

In view of the above, the present invention recited in the amended independent claims 1, 7, 14 and 21 should be distinguishable from Kuno.

Independent claims 13, 20 and 27 have been amended to clearly recite that a camera server of the present invention is arranged to receive at least one of a camera control right acquisition request and a camera control command from a client. When the camera server receives the camera control command from a client that does not have camera control right, the server provides that client with the camera control right if no other client has the camera control right, and then controls a camera in accordance with the received control command (page 20, line 12 to page 21, line 12). This feature of the present invention also is not taught or suggested by Kuno.

In the Office Action, the Examiner refers to steps S8 and S9 in Fig. 5 of the Kuno reference. However, these steps are executed only when a camera server receives not a camera control command but a camera control right acquisition request (see step S2). The step S2 in Fig. 5 receives at least one of the camera control right acquisition request, and the camera control command. When receiving the camera control command (n=2) from a client having no camera control right (i.e., not being registered in queue), the server merely notifies that client of the top of the queue and therefore fails to teach to register that client in the top of the queue in that case. Thus, the Kuno reference fails to teach the feature of the present invention recited in the amended independent claims 13, 20 and 27.

Likewise, dependent claims 2-6, 8-12, 15-19 and 22-26 are also believed to be distinguishable over Kuno based on their dependency from claims 1, 7, 13-14, 20-21 and 27, respectively.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4459. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4459. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: 02/06/04

By: Mark D. Pratt
Mark D. Pratt
Registration No. 45,794
(202) 857-7887 Telephone
(202) 857-7929 Facsimile

Correspondence Address:

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
345 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10154-0053